IN THE CLAIMS:

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a cyclodextrin-containing polymer and a therapeutic agent and a complexing agent comprising at least one functional group and at least one host/guest moiety that forms an inclusion complex with a host/guest moiety of said polymer, wherein the polymer, the therapeutic agent, and the complexing agent are separate molecules.

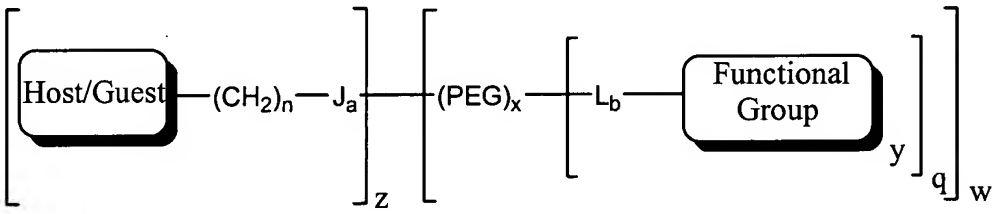
6. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein said therapeutic agent is selected from an antibiotic, a steroid, a polynucleotide, small molecule pharmaceutical, a virus, a plasmid, a peptide, a peptide fragment, a chelating agent, a biologically active macromolecule, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Original) A composition of claim 6, wherein said therapeutic agent is a polynucleotide.

8-10. (Cancelled)

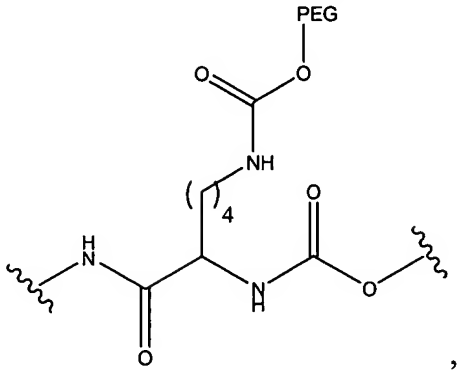
11. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the host/guest of the complexing agent is selected from adamantyl, naphthyl, cholesterol, cyclodextrin, and mixtures thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the complexing agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

J is –NH-, -C(=O)NH-$CH_2)_d$-, -NH-C(=O)-$(CH_2)_d$-, -CH_2SS-, -C(=O)O-$(CH_2)_e$-O-P(=O)(O-



$(CH_2)_e$-Y)O-, , a peptide or polypeptide residue, or

-NH-(C=O)-CH(R^1)-NH-(C=O)-CH(R^1)-NH-;

Y is an additional host-guest functionality;

R^1 is –(CH_2)-CO_2H, an ester or salt thereof; or –$(CH_2)_a$-$CONH_2$;

PEG is –$O(CH_2CH_2O)_z$-, where z varies from 2 to 500;

L is H, -NH, -NH-(C=O)-$(CH_2)_e$-(C=O)-CH_2-, -$S(=O)_2$-HC=CH-, -SS-, -C(=O)O-, or a carbohydrate residue;

a is 0 or 1;

b is 0 or 1;

d ranges from 0 to 6;

e ranges from 1 to 6;

n ranges from 0 to 6;

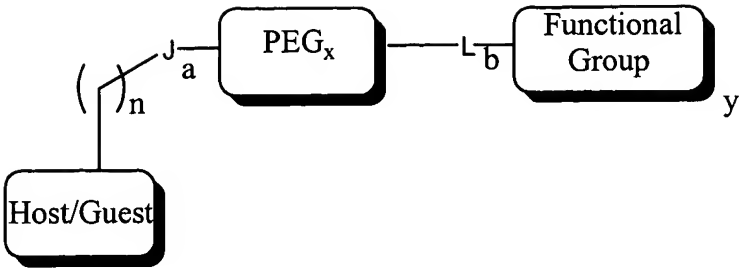
q ranges from 1 to 5;

w ranges from 1 to 5;

y is 1; and

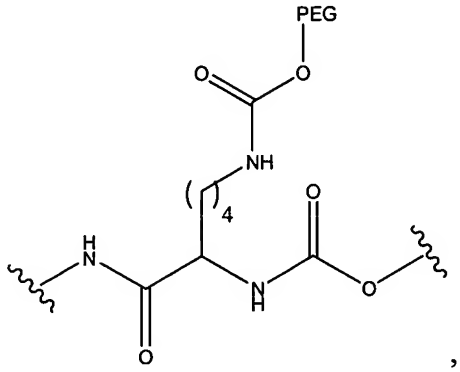
x is 0 or 1.

13. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the complexing agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

J is –NH-, -C(=O)NH-$CH_2)_d$-, -NH-C(=O)-$(CH_2)_d$-, -CH_2SS-, -C(=O)O-$(CH_2)_e$-O-P(=O)(O-



$(CH_2)_e$-Y)O-, , a peptide or polypeptide residue, or

-NH-(C=O)-CH(R^1)-NH-(C=O)-CH(R^1)-NH-;

Y is an additional host-guest functionality;

R^1 is –(CH_2)-CO_2H, an ester or salt thereof; or –$(CH_2)_a$-$CONH_2$;

PEG is –$O(CH_2CH_2O)_z$-, where z varies from 2 to 500;

L is H, -NH, -NH-(C=O)-$(CH_2)_e$-(C=O)-CH_2-; -$S(=O)_2$-HC=CH-, -SS-, -C(=O)O-, or a carbohydrate residue;

a is 0 or 1;

b is 0 or 1;

d ranges from 0 to 6;

e ranges from 1 to 6;

n ranges from 0 to 6;

y is 1; and

x is 0 or 1.

14. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a group selected from a ligand, a nuclear localization signal, an endosomal release peptide, an endosomal release polymer, or a membrane permeabilization agent.

15. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a moiety that increases the solubility of the composition under biological conditions relative to a composition of the polymer and therapeutic agent alone.

16. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a moiety that stabilizes the composition under biological conditions relative to a composition of the polymer and therapeutic agent alone.

17. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a therapeutic agent reversibly bound to the complexing agent.

18. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the complexing agent further comprises a spacer group.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 5, wherein the polymer comprises a guest moiety that forms an inclusion complex with a host moiety of the complexing agent.

21. (Previously Presented) A composition of claim 20, wherein the guest moiety is an adamantyl group and the host moiety is a cyclodextrin moiety.